

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The non-final Office Action of February 15, 2007, has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 48, 59, 80, 86 and 91-93 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 48-94 remain pending after entry of this amendment. Entry of this amendment and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

#### ***Claim Rejections***

Claims 48, 50, 51 and 54-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,134, "Shin") in view of Hind *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,980,660, "Hind") and in view of Davis *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,450, "Davis"). Claims 49, 52, 53, 65-67 and 74-79 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin in view of Hind and Davis and further in view of Scott *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,260). Claims 62-64 and 68-73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin in view of Hind and Davis and further in view of Rosen (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,921, "Rosen"). Claims 80-84 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin in view of Hind and Davis and further in view of Terao (U.S. Patent No. 6,690,794, "Terao '794"). Claim 86 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hind in view of Davis. Claims 87-90 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hind in view of Davis and Rosen. Claim 91 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hind in view of Davis, Rosen and Shin. Claim 92 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Terao (U.S. Patent No. 7,000,110, "Terao '110"), Nielsen (U.S. Patent No. 7,012,503, "Nielsen") and Marsh (U.S. Patent No. 7,124,938, "Marsh"). Claim 93 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Terao '110. Claim 94 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Terao '110 and further in view of Swift *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,113,994, "Swift"). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claims 48, 59, 80, 86, 92 and 93 all generally relate to, *inter alia*, a ticket generated by a first key device authorized to unlock an electronic lock device, wherein the ticket is secured by the first key device using a private key of the first key device and wherein

the ticket includes a public key of a second key device to which the ticket is transmitted. None of the cited references teach or suggest such features. For example, Shin lacks any teaching or suggestion of a first key device *authorized to unlock a lock device* generating a ticket and transmitting the ticket to a second key device. At most, Shin discloses a ticket generation device that may generate an access ticket for a proving device. Even so, nowhere does Shin teach or suggest that the ticket generation device is authorized to unlock a lock device. The Office Action cites Figs. 1a and 1b as disclosing a first key device authorized to unlock an electronic lock device generating a transmittable ticket for a second key device. However, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Fig. 1a nor Fig. 1b of Nielsen teach or suggest a first key device generating a ticket and transmitting the ticket to a second key device, wherein the first key device is authorized to unlock a lock device. Fig. 1a merely illustrates a method for a newspaper delivery man to enter a code into a mobile phone, wherein the mobile phone transmits a code to unlock a lock at a residence. Even assuming, without conceding, that the mobile phone constitutes a key device, there is still no teaching or suggestion of the mobile phone generating a ticket and sending such a ticket to a second key device. In fact, nowhere does Nielsen teach or suggest a second key device. None of the cited secondary references cures these deficiencies of either Nielsen or Shin. Thus, notwithstanding whether the cited references are properly combinable, the resultant combination(s), even if proper, fail to result in all of the features recited in claims 48, 59, 80, 86, 92 and 93. Furthermore, Applicant reserves the right to address any of the asserted motivations to combine.

Further, even assuming, without admitting, Shin, Nielsen or one or more of the cited secondary references teaches or suggests a first key device authorized to unlock a lock device generating a ticket and transmitting the ticket to a second key device, the references still lack any teaching or suggestion of the first key device signing the ticket with a private key of the first key device. At most, Marsh discloses the signing of a certificate by a trusted licensing authority. Col. 10, ll. 14-24. Even so, Marsh does not teach or suggest that the trusted licensing authority constitutes a first key device authorized to unlock a lock device. Marsh specifically describes using the licensing authority to testify to the authenticity of a smart card. Col. 10, ll. 14-24. The ability to verify authenticity does not constitute authorization to unlock a locking device. Accordingly, claims 48, 59, 80, 86, 92 and 93 are also allowable for these additional reasons.

Claims 49-58, 60-79, 81-85, 87-91 and 94 are dependent on claims 48, 59, 80, 86, 92 and 93, respectively, and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base independent claims and further in view of the novel and non-obvious features recited therein.

### **CONCLUSION**

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, including a three month extension of time fee, to Deposit Account 19-0733. If for any reason the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance or there are any questions, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 824-3153.

Respectfully submitted,

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